

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02580 251925 Z

63/47

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 PRS-01 L-02

IO-03 OIC-01 ACDA-10 MBFR-02 GAC-01 SAJ-01 NEA-06

PM-03 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /077 W
----- 041635

O R 251736 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 247

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

ALL NATO CAPITALS 2992

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T USNATO 2580

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT UNDER SUMMARY LAST LINE
DATED TO READ MAY 28 VICE MAY 30)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: ALLIES TURN TO U. S. TO RESOLVE MBFR/ CSCE TIMETABLE ISSUE

HELSINKI FOR USDEL MPT

VIENNA FOR USDEL MIT

SUMMARY: AT MAY 25 NAC MEETING, SEVERAL ALLIES EXPRESSED CONCERN
OVER NEW SOVIET POSITION THAT MBFR NEGOTIATIONS CAN ONLY BEGIN
AFTER COMPLETION OF ALL THREE STAGES OF CSCE. ALLIES BELIEVED
THAT SOVIETS WERE ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH NEW PRECONDITIONS AND
THAT THESE WERE BOTH UNACCEPTABLE AND UNREALISTIC. COUNCIL
CONSIDERED THAT IT WAS NOW UP TO THE U. S. TO HOLD THE SOVIETS TO
THEIR EARLIER AGREEMENT ON TIMETABLE, AND THAT THE U. S. SHOULD
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 02580 251925 Z

NOT WAIT UNTIL THE BREZHNEV VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO DO SO.

ACTION REQUESTED: A STATEMENT OF PRESENT US POSITION, AND US
INTENTIONS, FOR USE AT MAY 28 NAC. END SUMMARY.

1. CANADIAN PERMREP (MENZIES) UNDER INSTRUCTIONS SAID THAT SOVIETS SHOULD BE TOLD IMMEDIATELY THAT THEIR TWO NEW PRECONDITIONS -- THAT THE DATE FOR MBFR COULD ONLY BE ESTABLISHED AFTER THE DATE FOR CSCE AND THAT ALL STAGES OF THE CSCE WOULD NEED TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS -- ARE COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE ALLIES. ACCEPTANCE OF THESE PRECONDITIONS WOULD TOTALLY CHANGE THE BASIS ON WHICH THE ALLIES WERE PROCEEDING. SOVIETS SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT ANY CHANGE IN THE MBFR/ CSCE TIMETABLE WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY NATO MINISTERS AT THE JUNE 14-15 MINISTERIAL MEETING IN COPENHAGEN, WHICH WOULD MEAN THAT THE ALLIES COULD NOT AGREE BEFORE THEN TO A DATE FOR CSCE.

2. SPIERENBURG (NETHERLANDS) SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION PERSONALLY WITH FONMIN VAN DER STOEL WHO CONFIRMED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO AGREE TO A DATE FOR CSCE WITHOUT SETTING A DATE FOR MBFR. IT WOULD BE ILLUSORY TO THINK THAT THE SECOND STAGE OF THE CSCE CAN BE COMPLETED IN ONLY TWO- THREE MONTHS. SPIERENBURG SAID THAT THIS MESSAGE SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO THE SOVIETS IN VARIOUS WAYS, PARTICULARLY BY THE U. S.

3. AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD REPEATED HIS STATEMENT TO THE MAY 21 COUNCIL MEETING THAT DR. KISSINGER HAD EXPRESSED DISAGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIETS VIEW AND THAT THE U. S. STILL STRONGLY FAVORED MBFR NEGOTIATIONS IN MID- AUTUMN. SPIERENBURG REJOINED THAT HE WAS " ASTONISHED" THAT RUMSFELD DID NOT MAKE A CLEARER AFFIRMATION OF THE U. S. POSITION ON THIS MATTER. THE U. S. HAD STEADILY PRESSED THE ALLIES TO MOVE AHEAD IN CSCE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE KISSINGER/ BREZHNEV TIMETABLE. NOW THAT THE SOVIETS WERE BACKING OFF FROM THEIR PART OF THE ARRANGEMENT, THE U. S. WAS TAKING AN INEXPLICABLY RELAXED VIEW. HE FAILED TO UNDERSTAND U. S. HESITATIONS AND BELIEVED THAT THE U. S. SHOULD NOT DELAY IN TELLING THE SOVIETS THAT THE ALLIES WOULD NOT AGREE TO A DATE FOR CSCE UNTIL THE SOVIETS SET A DATE FOR MBFR.

4. GREECE SAID THAT THE ALLIES WOULD LOSE FACE COMPLETELY IF THEY ACCEPTED THE SOVIET POSITIONS, WHICH HAVE NO CONNECTION WHATSOEVER WITH WHAT WAS AGREED LAST FALL. FRG REP BELIEVED THAT THE NIXON/ SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 02580 251925 Z

BREZHNEV SUMMIT WOULD BE A " FINAL SAFEGUARD" AND THE DECISIVE MOMENT FOR RESOLVING THIS ISSUE, BUT LUNS WONDERED WHETHER THIS MEETING WOULD NOT BE TOO LATE AND THAT THERE WOULD BE STRONG PRESSURE BEFORE THEN TO FIX A DATE FOR CSCE. DE STAERCKE SAID THAT BELGIUM COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY NEW PRECONDITIONS AND THAT

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE INFO SECDEF
ALL NATO CAPITALS
HELSINKI
MOSCOW
VIENNA
Type: TE
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